PIGEON SCANS

SHOKUBUTSU ZUKAN

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堤翔

Kakeru Tsutsumi

イツキくん落ちてないかなあ
という呟きが皆様の口から
こぼれますように。
イツキくん落ちてないかなあ。

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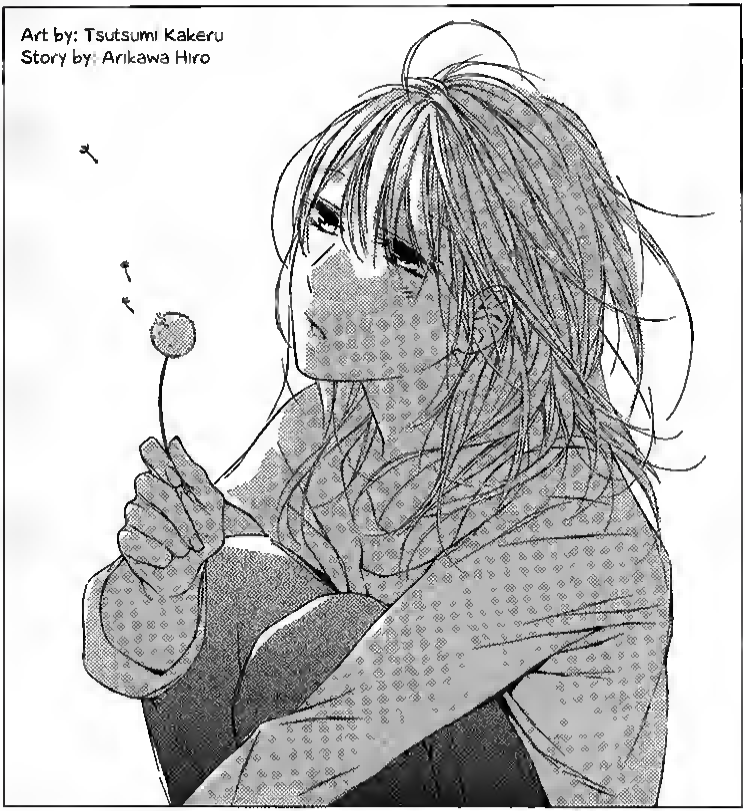

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この作品はフィクションです。実在の人物・団体・事件などにはいっさい関係ありません。

第1章 ヘクソカズラ

Paederia scandens var. mairei

Chapter 1: Stinkvine

Ahahaha

Little knowledge and

so much memories.

Nothing from that has faded away.

That's

the story which you gave me.

STEP
DAMN!
HICCUP
THAT SEKIGUCHI KEPT TALKING ABOUT HER LOVER FOREVER.
I DON'T..
...HAVE A BOYFRIEND OR A LOVER, DAMN IT!

EVERYDAY, I JUST EAT THE BENTOU THAT I BUY FROM THE CONVENIENT STORE!
THERE'S NO ONE WAITING FOR ME AT HOME WHEN I GO BACK
sob
It doesn't matter!
Guess I'll take a bath then sleep early
AFTER ALL—
SNIFF

Eh?

Wh-
Eh?!
Why is there a person...
...in front of my house?!
Or rather...

...is he alive?
Damn it!
He's very goodlooking
Oh.
U-
UMM...

WHAT HAPPENED?
...
I FELL ON THE STREET.
WHY DID YOU FALL?
I'M SO HUNGRY THAT I CAN'T MOVE ANOTHER SINGLE STEP.
...

DO YOU HAVE ANY MONEY?
I USED ALL THE MONEY THAT I HAD SO I'M BROKE.
OH!
POOR YOU!

IF YOU DON'T MIND,
COULD YOU PICK ME UP, YOUNG LADY?

...
woof
P-
PICK YOU UP?
LIKE A STRAY DOG? NO WAY!
fu fu fu
fu
I DON'T BITE.
I'M A WELL BROUGHT UP DOG.
PFFT-

It was that moment

that I gave in to temptation.

ring~
Eh...
HEY!
DO YOU REMEMBER ME?
AH.
Yesterday, I was drunk and...
Pick me up...
Eh...
What did I do?
Or rather,
woof
...
UMMM...

MORNING,
WOOF-CHAN
I THOUGHT I WOULD BE HANDED OVER TO THE POLICE FOR TRESPASSING.
THANK GOOD-NESS
oh!

NO!
THERE WAS NOTHING IN YOUR FRIDGE THAT'S SUITABLE FOR A PERSON LIVING ALONE.
I was surprised.
WERE THESE INGREDIENTS IN MY HOUSE?
I RECOVERED MY STRENGTH SO THAT I COULD MAKE BREAKFAST FOR MY OWNER.
LAST NIGHT,
I ATE THE INSTANT NOODLES.
BUT THERE WERE SOME EGGS THAT WERE ABOUT TO EXPIRE AND AN ONION.
WHOSE HOUSE IS THIS ANYWAY?
...
THEN,
SHALL WE EAT?

* T/N: WHEN THE MAN INVITED HER TO EAT, IT SOUNDED AS IF HE WAS THE OWNER OF THE HOUSE.

Come to think of it
I haven't folded my hands before eating for a long time
IT'S DELI-CIOUS...
TEARS

!?
TEARS
STARTLED
THANK GOODNE—
REALLY?
WELL,
SOME-THING WRONG?
EH
EH...
EH!?
SORRY...
I JUST THOUGHT THAT WHEN SOMEONE MAKES ME FOOD, IT TASTES MORE DELICIOUS.
It's as if...

THANKS.
...it is being absorbed by my body gradually.
DO YOU HAVE A PLACE TO GO TO?
YES?
SAY,
THE TIMING'S BAD SO I COULDN'T FIND A PART-TIME JOB.
NO, I DON'T

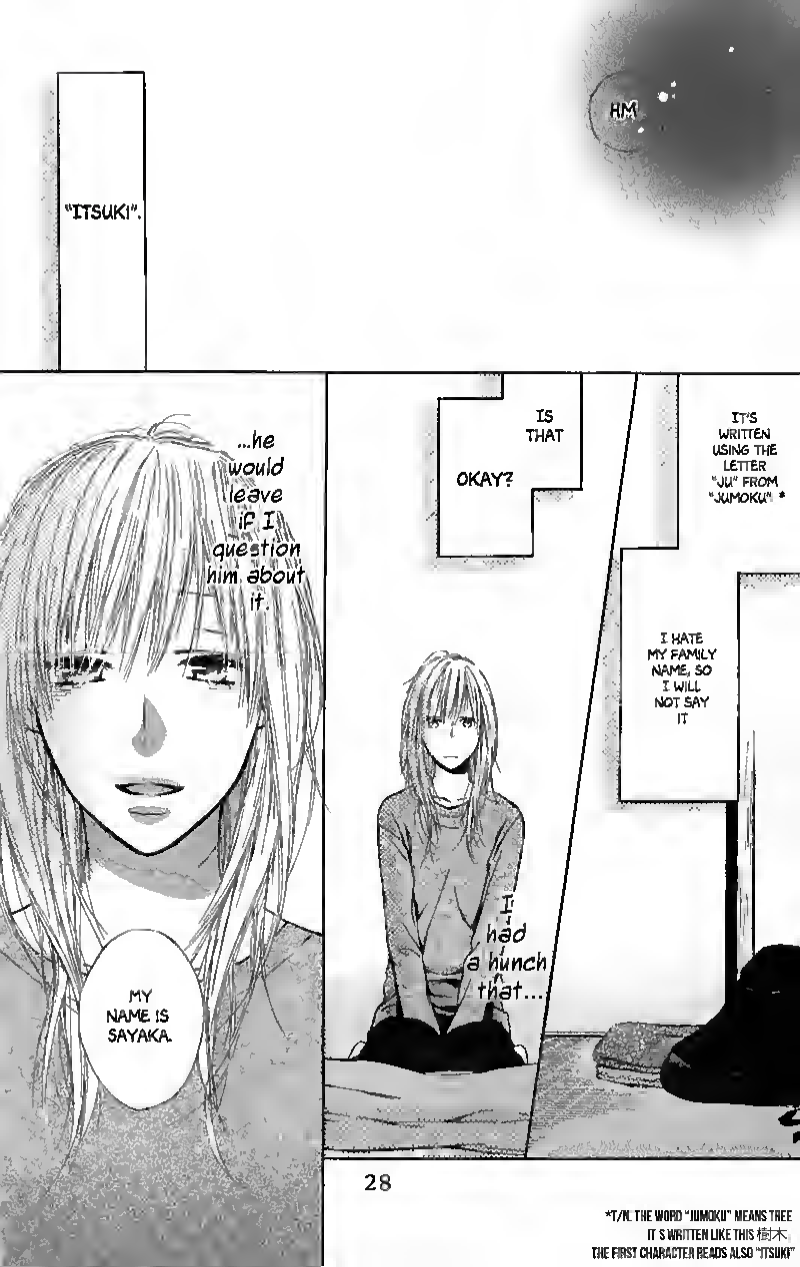
I GUESS YOU'RE CORNERED INTO A REAL SITUATION, HUH?
...
IF YOU HAVE NOWHERE TO GO,
HUMMM...
WHY DON'T YOU STAY HERE?
...
ARE YOU AWARE OF YOUR OWN GENDER?

BUT..
I'M A GUY, AS FAR AS IT GOES
BUT...
I KNOW THAT.
...YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAID "PICK ME UP".
MOREOVER,
.. managed to make such a warm meal that requires time to prepare
THAT YOU CAPTURED MY STOMACH FIRMLY.*
IT'S IMPRESSIVE.
With just eggs that were about to expire and one onion...
And,
He...

*T/N THIS IS SOMETHING SIMILAR TO "THE WAY TO A MAN'S HEART IS THROUGH HIS STOMACH ...EXCEPT THAT SHE'S A WOMAN SO THE GUY CAPTURED THE WOMAN'S STOMACH"

DON'T YOU WANT TO...
DON'T YOU THINK THAT WE'LL MISS EACH OTHER IF WE DON'T SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN?
...
WHAT WILL I GET IN RETURN?
EAT THAT MEAL AGAIN?

ASSUMING THAT,
I'LL BE DOING THE COOKING AND OTHER HOUSE WORK.
YOU GET TO STAY HERE AND
HAVE THE RIGHT TO MANAGE THE LIVING EXPENSES


"ITSUKI".
HM
IS THAT OKAY?
IT'S WRITTEN USING THE LETTER "JU" FROM "JUMOKU". *
I HATE MY FAMILY NAME, SO I WILL NOT SAY IT
I had a hunch that...
...he would leave if I question him about it.
MY NAME IS SAYAKA.

*T/N. THE WORD "JUMOKU" MEANS TREE
IT'S WRITTEN LIKE THIS 樹木.
THE FIRST CHARACTER READS ALSO "ITSUKI"

The "Well brought up dog"
has become a "housemate".
NICE TO MEET YOU.
ITSUKI
I wanted to ask him
But I couldn't.
SHEESH.
ぷち

WHERE DO THESE WEEDS COME FROM?
DID SOMEONE COME AT NIGHT TO SCATTER THEIR SEEDS?
THE NAME OF THIS GRASS IS NOT "WEED"
"EACH GRASS HAS ITS OWN NAME."
I HEARD
THAT THE SHOUWA EMPEROR SAID THAT
HEE.
AH...
DAMN!
MM?
IT'S GROWING QUICKLY!

SHOUWA IS IS THE PERIOD OF JAPANESE HISTORY CORRESPONDING TO THE REIGN OF THE SHŌWA EMPEROR, HIROHITO. FROM DECEMBER 25, 1926, THROUGH JANUARY 7, 1989.

*T/N: STINKVINE IN JAPANESE IS 屁美葛 (HE-KUSO-KAZURA) WHICH LITERALLY MEANS FART-SHIT-VINE.

YOU CAN TELL THAT FROM ITS NAME, STINKVINE. *
SO THAT'S ONLY NATURAL.
HE-KUSO-KAZURA?
AH, YOU MEAN THIS?
YEAH
I HATE IT THE MOST,
BECAUSE IT ENTWINES WITH THE FENCE, SO IT'S HARD TO REMOVE.
MY HANDS BECOME VERY SMELLY.

NOW, NOW.
IT SEEMS THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ITS SECOND PHASE.
?
RIGHT.
IT'S CALLED STINKVINE BECAUSE IT RELEASES A BAD SMELL SIMILAR TO FART-SHIT.
uwaa
I REALLY THOUGHT IT WAS SMELLY.

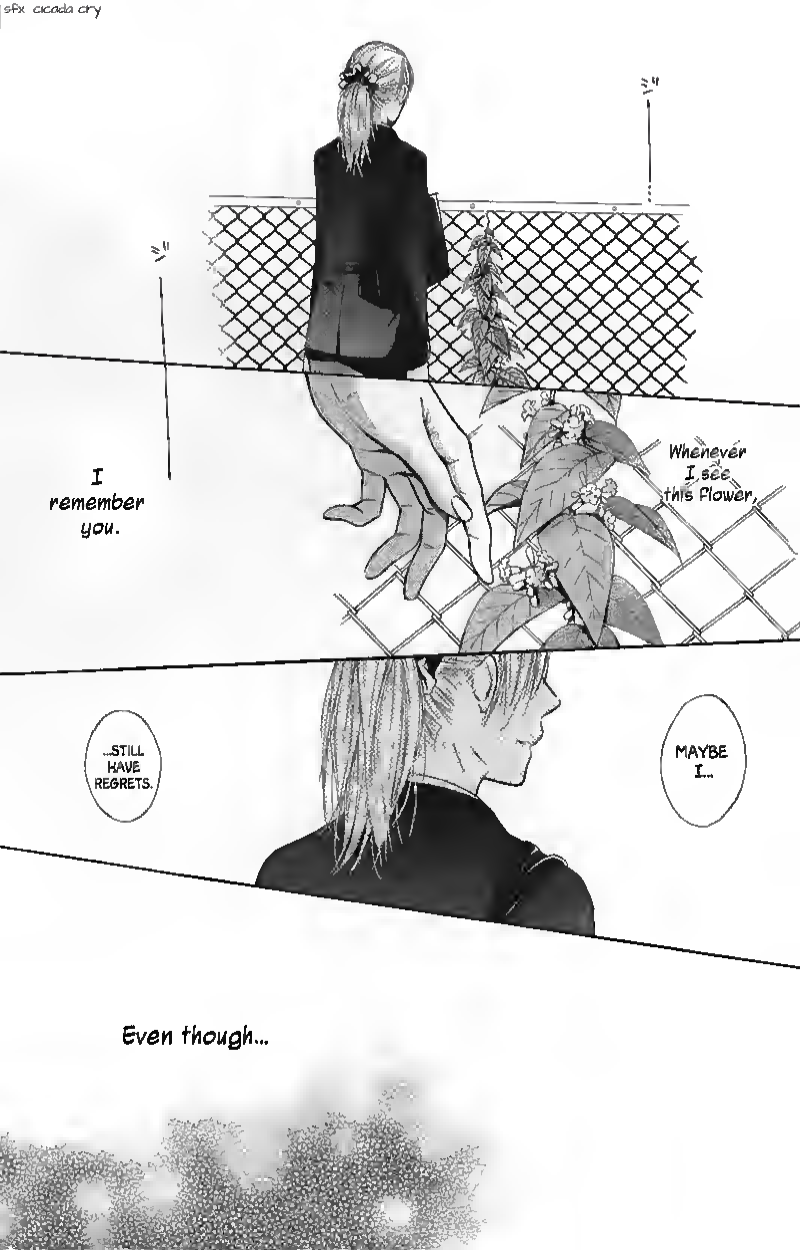
IT'S TRUE THAT IT'S NOTHING BUT JUST A VINE UNTIL IT'S FULLY GROWN.
WHEN ITS FLOWERS BLOOM, IT MAKES A SURPRISING PROGRESS.
DO YOU MIND IF WE LEAVE ONE OF THEM?
OKAY THEN,
JUST THE ONE THAT IS FARTHEST FROM MY ROOM.

SAYAKA, SAYAKA...
sfx: cicada cry
When Itsuki eventually found a part-time job and,
my life settled down...

HERE WE GO
THIS IS THE LONG AWAITED SECOND PHASE.

NOTHING CHANGED ABOUT ITS AWFUL SMELL BUT...
I THINK ITS LOVELY FLOWERS MAKE IT RANK VERY HIGH EVEN AMONG "WEEDS"

Whenever I see the stinkvine
YOU'RE RIGHT!
that is located farthest from my room that entwines with the fence...
Even now,


sfx: cicada cry
I remember you.
Whenever I see this flower,
MAYBE I...
...STILL HAVE REGRETS.
Even though...

...you are no longer beside me.

PIGEON SCANS

IS NOW RECRUITING!

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